

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. Water filter cartridge, especially for treating
2 drinking water in beverage machines or drinking water devices,
3 with a replaceable control unit to monitor the condition of the
4 water filter cartridge, characterized in that the control unit
5 includes a sensor unit (11) with at least one conductance sensor
6 (13, 14).

1 2. Water filter cartridge according to Claim 1,
2 characterized in that the conductance sensor (13) is provided to
3 measure the conductivity of the filtered water.

1 3. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that sensor elements (13) are
3 provided which project into the housing (2) of the filter
4 cartridge (1).

1 4. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that at least one passage
3 and/or at least one break point are provided for one or more
4 sensor elements (13) to go through.

1 5. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that a conductance sensor
3 (19) is provided to measure the quality of the unfiltered water.

1 6. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that an electronic evaluation
3 unit (19) is provided.

1 7. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that the electronic
3 evaluation unit (19) takes into account the difference between
4 at least two conductance values in performing its evaluation.

1 8. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that a temperature sensor
3 (15) is provided.

1 9. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that a timing element is
3 provided for determining the time.

1 10. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that a display (16) is

3 provided for the condition of the water filter cartridge (1).

1 11. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that fastening elements (12)
3 are provided to fasten the sensor unit (11) to the filter
4 cartridge (1).

1 12. Water filter cartridge according to one of the
2 preceding claims, characterized in that at least some of the
3 fastening elements are catches (12).

1 13. Beverage machine or drinking water device with a
2 drinking water treatment system, characterized in that a water
3 filter cartridge (1) according to one of the preceding claims is
4 provided.